

2002



# *Annual Report*

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# 2002 in the...

## A Year to be Proud Of

***We are pleased to present to our stakeholders the 2002 Annual Report of the Washington State Patrol. In the Patrol, 2002 was a year of major milestones, hard work, and dedication. We are proud of all of our men and women all over the state who contribute to the overall mission of the Washington State Patrol. In every bureau and unit, in every job category, everyone contributes to the bottom line—public safety.***



**Chief Ronal W. Serpas**

***In this report, we have summarized just a few of our accomplishments, which we present to you with pride. At the end of the report, you will note we have included excerpts of communications received from the citizens of our state who appreciate the efforts of the Washington State Patrol to make Washington State a great place to live, play, and work.***

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## FIELD OPERATIONS BUREAU

The Field Operations Bureau (FOB) is primarily responsible for traffic law enforcement, collision investigation, and motorist assists on 17,524 miles of state and interstate highways. The bureau is comprised of eight districts, the Special Operations Division, Aviation Section, Executive Protection Unit, Canine Unit, Explosives Unit, Honor Guard, and Vessel and Terminal Security. There are a total of 811 traffic officers assigned to FOB.

### ***In 2002, the Field Operations Bureau reports:***

- ◆ DUI arrests were up 35% from 2001 to 2002, the highest in ten years. This means 4,856 more drugged/drunken drivers were taken off the road.
- ◆ Aggressive driving contacts increased by 77%
- ◆ Fatal collisions on interstate highways were reduced by 29%.
- ◆ Injury collisions on all roadways patrolled by the WSP were down 4%.
- ◆ Even with all of the additional presence, increased productivity, and enforcement, complaints against WSP troopers were down 18%.
- ◆ The Serious Highway Crime Apprehension Team made 585 arrests related to narcotics and seized 36 vehicles and \$114,252. They also made 663



**Deputy Chief Lowell M. Porter**

misdemeanor and 98 felony arrests, arrested 123 DUIs, and conducted 5,474 traffic stops.

- ◆ Seat belt compliance is now the highest in the nation at 92.6%.
- ◆ Warrant Apprehension Team members made 2,023 warrant arrests with a total bail amount of \$3,391,648.

### WASHINGTON MOTORING ENVIRONMENT

Motoring Environment	2002	2001
Registered Vehicles	6.1 million	6.0 million
Licensed Drivers	4.3 million	4.3 million
Miles Traveled (in billions)	*	53,669
Statewide Population	6,000,000	5,974,900
Fatality Rate	*	1.21

\*Data not available until June 2003.

### WSP MAJOR ARREST CATEGORIES

Arrest Category	2002	2001	% Change
DUI	18,513	14,617	+26.6
Hit-and-Run	708	703	+7
Reckless Driving	1,670	1,528	+9.2
Negligent Driving	4,722	4,346	+8.6
Felony Eluding	266	240	+10.8
Failure to Yield Right-of-Way	2,487	2,224	+11.8
Child Restraint	4,154	2,817	+47.4
Driving With License Suspended	23,130	20,643	+12.0
Seat Belt Violations	65,603	39,729	+65.1
Speed	24,542	21,728	+12.9
Speed – Aircraft	9,832	3,584	+174.3
Speed – Radar	207,395	140,411	+47.7
Speed – Too Fast for Conditions	9,764	9,226	+5.8
Hazardous Materials	95	75	+26.6
Motor Vehicle Theft	187	135	+38.5
Misdemeanor Warrants	8,532	6,176	+38.1
Felony Warrants	2,336	1,892	+23.4
Drugs	8,564	6,023	+42.1
Uninsured Motorists	34,404	27,791	+23.7

### AGGRESSIVE DRIVING APPREHENSION TEAM

Category	2002	2001	% Change
DUI	306	101	+202.9
Reckless Driving	126	78	+61.5
Negligent Driving	533	341	+56.3
Driving While License Suspended	490	275	+78.1
Speed	8,761	3,595	+143.6
Seat Belt	2,864	967	+196.1
High Occupancy Lane Violations	209	203	+2.9
Following Too Close	1,563	476	+228.3
Lane Travel	1,602	339	+372.5
Improper Passing	582	140	+315.7

## MANAGEMENT SERVICES BUREAU

The Management Services Bureau is responsible for management of all agency financial activities; preparation, justification, and allotment of the department's operating and capital budgets; fiscal notes on proposed legislation; human resource services to Washington State Patrol employees, the agency, and the public; comprehensive facilities management; performance of agency studies, research, revisions to manuals, performance measures, and regulation development; purchasing and management of supplies; and management of the fleet of Washington State Patrol pursuit and other vehicles.



### ***The Management Services Bureau reports:***

**Diane C. Perry, CPA**

- ◆ Increased percentage of commissioned women in cadet classes.
- ◆ Increased the percentage of "hands-off" payments from 35% to 85% for the year 2002.
- ◆ Led the agency to a new mission statement: *The Washington State Patrol makes a difference every day by providing public safety services to everyone where they live, work, travel and play.*

## HUMAN RESOURCE DIVISION

Trooper Cadet Applicants	2002	2001
Male	858	999
Female	111	111
Caucasian	811	941
Minorities	158	169
<i>Hire Percentage Rate</i>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2001</b>
Male	08.2%	04.4%
Female	13.5%	03.6%
Caucasian	08.6%	04.6%
Minorities	09.5%	03.0%

## TECHNICAL SERVICES BUREAU

The Technical Services Bureau provides many diverse services to the entire department, other law enforcement and government agencies, and members of the general public. The services include information technology, employee training and development, electronic and microwave system services, emergency communications, and criminal history.

### *The Technical Services Bureau reports:*

- ◆ Implemented a new procedure to detect registered sex and kidnapping offenders who have moved and not notified law enforcement.
- ◆ A 9% increase in 911 calls to WSP Communications Centers for service, from 713,000 in 2001 to 779,000 in 2002.
- ◆ The Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) electronically connected to the FBI's integrated system, providing real-time identification for persons arrested. This allows a person's fingerprints to be searched at the federal and local levels so that someone can be identified for other crimes while in custody, before being released back into the community.
- ◆ The WSP entered into an agreement with the Social Security Administration (SSA) to conduct a computer match between the Washington Crime Information Center and the SSA computer to identify persons with outstanding felony warrants. Since its inception in 2001, more than \$12.8 million has been saved and 28 arrests have been made.



**Deputy Chief Maurice C. King**



## CRIMINAL RECORDS DIVISION

Criminal History Statistics	2002	2001
Public Inquiries	107,857	105,778
Child/Vulnerable Adult Inquiries	41,788	53,789
Fingerprint Cards Received	314,947	304,478
Fingerprint Card Upgrades	254,123	171,117
New Fingerprint Records Added	95,345	34,042
Online Checks through WATCH	734,295	838,128
Active Online Users of WATCH	10,315	8,317
Processed Records Requests ( <i>in dollars</i> )	5,034,408	5,128,193
Disposition (All Types)	267,354	289,163

## INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES BUREAU

The Investigative Services Bureau consists of five divisions that provide various public services, including the investigation of computer crimes, missing children, narcotics, dismantling of clandestine labs, and the gathering of criminal intelligence; public records and records retention; inspection of commercial vehicles and school buses; and fatality and criminal investigations.

### *The Investigative Services Bureau reports:*

- ◆ Commercial-vehicle-involved fatality collisions were down for the fourth consecutive year in Washington! There were 56 fatalities in 2001, which was reduced to 50 in 2002, an 11% decrease.
- ◆ Washington's out-of-service rate for vehicles remained at 14% (115,884 vehicles were inspected; of these vehicles, 16,175 were placed out of service); in 2001, 74,152 vehicles were inspected; of these vehicles, 10,311 were placed out of service. Washington's out-of-service rate exceeds the national average, indicating commercial vehicles in Washington are being maintained better than in other parts of the country.
- ◆ Through the use of weigh-in-motion technologies at five scale facilities, over 1.9 million commercial vehicles were allowed to bypass weigh stations, resulting in over \$9.5 million in savings to private companies.
- ◆ Weight violations were up 30% and hours spent weighing are up 16%.



**Deputy Chief Steven T. Jewell**

- ◆ The Commercial Vehicle Division deployed dedicated school bus inspectors statewide. Over 455,000 students were transported on 9,037 buses each day, traveling over 90 million miles annually in Washington. In 2002, school-bus-involved collisions were down 20% and bus-driver-caused collisions 36%.
- ◆ The Missing and Exploited Children's Task Force assisted in the investigation of 57 cases.
- ◆ 3,369 commercial vehicle level III inspections have been conducted by troopers and enforcement officers at ferry terminals since June 2002.
- ◆ The Missing Children Clearinghouse assisted with 490 cases involving custodial interference or missing children, resulting in a 36% increase from 2001.
- ◆ The Computer Crimes Unit completed 123 cases, including a case involving thousands of pornographic images and multimedia files involving children.
- ◆ The Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Team conducted 50 proactive meth cases, showing a 6-fold increase over 2001.
- ◆ Fuel tax evasion collections are monies collected as the result of assessments levied and are deposited into the Washington State Motor Vehicle Fund.
- ◆ Stolen Vehicles Recovered: Washington State ranks 3rd in the nation with 596 vehicles stolen per 100,000 inhabitants. To better address the auto theft problem in this state, the WSP Criminal Investigation Division Auto Theft program was reorganized on November 1, 2002, and now consists of 16 detectives and three sergeants dedicated to three regional auto theft units. Although this reorganization occurred late in the year, a tremendous increase in the number of stolen vehicles recovered and arrests made can be seen. Even more dramatic increases are expected in 2003.

<b>COMMERCIAL VEHICLE SERVICES</b>		
<b>Service Statistics</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2001</b>
<b>Trucks Weighed</b>	<b>1,975,055</b>	<b>1,453,786</b>
<b>Permit Revenues (<i>in dollars</i>)</b>	<b>942,486</b>	<b>997,923</b>
<b>Permits Sold</b>	<b>31,838</b>	<b>33,129</b>
<b>School Bus Inspections</b>	<b>11,296</b>	<b>10,811</b>
<b>Private School Bus Inspections</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance Inspections</b>	<b>115,884</b>	<b>74,105</b>
<b>Truck Inspections – Vehicles Out of Service</b>	<b>16,175</b>	<b>14,764</b>
<b>Truck Inspections – Drivers Out of Service</b>	<b>5,334</b>	<b>4,880</b>

### SPECIAL WEAPONS AND TACTICS TEAM (SWAT)

Response Description	2002	2001
Methamphetamine Labs	226	343
Tactical Responses	40	12
Turndowns	23	86
Total Calls for Service	356	492

### OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

Investigations	2002	2001
Complaints	252 <sup>1</sup>	308 <sup>2</sup>
Pursuits	334 <sup>3</sup>	279 <sup>4</sup>
Use of Force	225 <sup>5</sup>	152 <sup>6</sup>
WSP Vehicle Collisions/Incidents	309 <sup>7</sup>	249 <sup>8</sup>
Loss/Damage Equipment	50 <sup>9</sup>	44 <sup>10</sup>

### CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DIVISION

Investigations	2002	2001
Total Cases Opened	1,217	*
Total Physical Arrests	184	*
Felony Vehicular Homicide Investigations	60	*
Felony Vehicular Assault Investigations	140	*
Crime Scene Response Assists/Other Agencies	135	102
Vehicles Stolen in Washington State	39,370	37,476
Auto Theft Cases	361	302
Stolen Vehicles Recovered	278	95
Auto Theft Arrests	59	19
Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) Inspections	46,518	56,363
Fuel Tax Evasion Collections ( <i>in dollars</i> )	427,117	179,345
Fuel Tax Evasion Assessments ( <i>in dollars</i> )	1,028,329	1,158,617

\* Data not available

<sup>1</sup> 136 proven (54%)

<sup>2</sup> 124 proven (40%)

<sup>3</sup> 5 unauthorized (1.5%)

<sup>4</sup> 3 unauthorized (1%)

<sup>5</sup> 1 unauthorized (.4%) (accidental discharge)

<sup>6</sup> 1 unauthorized (0.7%)

<sup>7</sup> 113 chargeable (37%)

<sup>8</sup> 92 chargeable (37%)

<sup>9</sup> 30 chargeable (60%)

<sup>10</sup> 24 chargeable (55%)

**NOTE:** Numbers reported may vary from previous annual reports due to additional investigations being completed after publishing.



## INVESTIGATIVE ASSISTANCE DIVISION

Investigative Statistics	2002	2001
Computer Crimes – Total	182	147
—Child Pornography	55	57
Missing and Exploited Children – Total	57	68
—Child Pornography	28	9
Total Cases	239	215
—Child Pornography	83	66
Missing Children Clearinghouse/Missing and Exploited Children Task Force – Total Recovered or Located	160	213

## FORENSIC LABORATORY SERVICES BUREAU

The Forensic Laboratory Services Bureau (FLSB) provides a wide range of forensic science expertise to city, county, and state law enforcement officers, assisting agencies at crime scenes, preparing evidence for trials, and providing expert testimony. The bureau coordinates the efforts of the State's Breath Alcohol Test Program, Drug Evaluation and Classification (DEC) Program, six Crime Laboratories, the Latent Print Laboratory, and the State Toxicology Laboratory.



**Dr. Barry K. Logan**

### *The Forensic Laboratory Services Bureau reports:*

- ◆ New Seattle Crime Laboratory opened in December.
- ◆ The expanded convicted felon databank was implemented and over 18,000 DNA collection kits were assembled and distributed.
- ◆ Provided training to 150 law enforcement and corrections personnel in DNA collection.
- ◆ The Washington State Patrol Crime Scene Response Team (CSRT) is a joint effort of the Crime Laboratory Division, the Criminal Investigation Division, and the Identification Section. The CSRT provides a comprehensive investigative capability for crime scenes at the request of any law enforcement agency in the state. The CSRT responded to 107 callouts during 2002 and 141 in 2001.
- ◆ There were a total of 18,007 breath tests performed by Washington State Patrol officers in 2002. In addition, the Washington State Patrol (WSP) Implied Consent Section trained 1,996 operators in breath test refresher training and 848 operators completed the basic breath test training class. Implied Consent Section technicians appeared in court 447 times in 2002.

- ◆ There were 3,941 death investigations conducted and 2,800 DUI and 941 Drug Recognition Expert cases received by the Forensic Laboratory Services Bureau in 2002 compared to 3,700 death investigations, 2,640 DUI and 576 DRE cases received in 2001.
- ◆ The Crime Laboratory Division received 14,151 controlled substance cases in 2002. The median turnaround time of pending controlled substance cases at the end of 2002 was 22 days, consistent with the division's performance measure of less than 30 days.

<b>BREATH TESTS &amp; DRUG EVALUATIONS (DRUG EVALUATION AND CLASSIFICATION)</b>		
<b>WSP Tests/Evaluations</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2001</b>
<b>Total Number of Breath Tests*</b>	<b>18,007</b>	<b>13,351</b>
<b>Average Breath Alcohol</b>	<b>0.13</b>	<b>0.133</b>
<b>Percentage of Collisions</b>	<b>11.3%</b>	<b>14%</b>
<b>Percentage of Refusals</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>15%</b>
<b>Drug Evaluations Conducted on Drivers</b>	<b>692</b>	<b>537</b>
<b>Total Certified Drug Recognition Experts</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>121</b>
<b><i>Drug Recognition Experts</i></b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2001</b>
<b>WSP</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>74</b>
<b>Non-WSP</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>47</b>

*\*Statistics do not include cases where a serious collision occurred, the driver went to the hospital, and blood was drawn (about 5% more).*

## **FIRE PROTECTION BUREAU**

The Office of the State Fire Marshal, Fire Protection Bureau, provides services to fire districts, government agencies, members of the media, and the general public. These services include fire investigations; fire incident reporting and data collection; fire code review and adoption; construction plan review for fire sprinkler and alarm systems; and fire inspections of high-risk occupancies housing elderly and vulnerable populations. In addition, the bureau regulates the fireworks and sprinkler industry through a licensing program. The State Fire Training Academy provides training to the state's fire departments and districts. The Fire Protection Bureau also provides coordination of Washington State fire service resources for mobilization during natural or human-caused disasters. Terrorism and hazardous materials



**State Fire Marshal  
Mary L. Corso**

training, fire and life safety prevention education, and public information services are also responsibilities of the Fire Protection Bureau.

### ***The Fire Protection Bureau reports:***

- ◆ Inspection process reduced the out-of-compliance rate from 40 state-licensed facilities (e.g., nursing homes, day cares, boarding homes, alcohol treatment facilities, etc.) to 2.
- ◆ Protected vulnerable citizens in nursing homes, day care centers, boarding homes, and alcohol/drug treatment centers by reducing the 180-day inspection requirement to 120 days.
- ◆ 400 more fire and life safety inspections of state-licensed facilities were conducted in 2002, a 21% increase.
- ◆ By November 2002, the 31 facilities identified as out of compliance within the 120-day inspection process were reduced to 5.
- ◆ Through a grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce, the Fire Protection Bureau was able to purchase updated technology for 150 small, rural fire departments.

<b>FIRE PROTECTION BUREAU</b>		
<b>Activity</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2001</b>
<b>Hazardous Materials and Terrorism Training</b>	<b>1,845</b>	<b>1,258</b>
<b>Annual Initial and Follow-Up Inspections Conducted</b>	<b>1,932</b>	<b>2,490</b>
<b>Nursing Home Facilities Inspected</b>	<b>292</b>	<b>286</b>
<b>Boarding Home Facilities Inspected</b>	<b>599</b>	<b>603</b>
<b>Group Home Facilities Inspected</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>Child Care Centers Inspected</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>354</b>
<b>Boarding Home Fire Sprinkler Retrofits<sup>11</sup></b>	<b>24</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>School Plan Review Projects<sup>12</sup></b>	<b>11</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Plan Reviews – Ongoing Projects<sup>13</sup></b>	<b>18</b>	<b>--</b>
<b>Plan Reviews – Completed Projects<sup>14</sup></b>	<b>7</b>	<b>--</b>
<b>Plan Review – Project Values (Not Including Schools) (in dollars)</b>	<b>370,000,000</b>	<b>--</b>
<b>Fire Sprinkler Contractor Licenses</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>268</b>

<sup>11</sup> Made possible by a \$2 million state grant.

<sup>12</sup> Encompasses building construction and all aspects of fire and life safety.

<sup>13</sup> The Fire and Life Safety Plan Review Program was implemented in 2002.

<sup>14</sup> Same as Footnote 12.

## FIRE PROTECTION BUREAU

Activity	2002	2001
Fire Sprinkler Certificate of Competency Holders	447	438
Fireworks Licenses	1,084	1,043
Fire Investigations	23	26
Career Firefighter Training	1,549	1,018
Volunteer Firefighter Training	2,228	2,633
Private Industry Firefighter Training	981	1,848
Airport Firefighter Training	299	277
Fire Departments Reporting Incident Data (NFIRS 5.0)	247	193

## OFFICE OF THE CHIEF

### *The Office of the Chief reports:*

- ◆ Government and Media Relations led the development and implementation of the statewide Amber Alert Plan.
- ◆ The Chief conducted nine statewide public forums around the state in which approximately 600 people attended.



America's  
Missing  
Broadcast  
Emergency  
Response





The Washington State Patrol regularly receives letters from the public thanking our agency and our individuals for their efforts and professionalism in their day-to-day activities.

It is letters like these that show us how much of a difference we make in someone's life when we come in contact with them. If—through our combined efforts at increased public information, education, and enforcement—we can save one additional life, we have done our jobs.

*"I just wanted to let you know how much we appreciated the trooper who came to our training center and gave a great presentation on Road Rage and Defensive Driving. He was very informative and had a great attitude about giving the presentation as well as a great attitude about what he does."*

*"I see getting pulled over as providing new changes in my life..."*

*"I am writing to say thank you to the officer who gave me a speeding ticket two mornings ago on Interstate 5. It is strange for me to read that last sentence and believe I am writing it, but I was given a wake-up call by that officer and I'm really grateful."*

*"Having a presence on the highway very much helps to keep things safer..."*

*"You pulled me over for speeding on June 5...I'd like to thank you for suggesting that I attend the Defensive Driving School. It makes me stop and think about the example I was setting for my 16- and 14-year-old sons."*

*"I would like to commend a trooper for the display of professionalism he showed while on duty Sunday morning. I would prefer not to discuss the details of our contact, but I will say this—I've had more than a few encounters with law enforcement personnel and never once have I been treated with such a degree of respect and decency."*

*"I don't normally write this kind of e-mail, but I just want to make sure that the appropriate people are recognized for their great work on the highway...EVERY SINGLE WRECK had a state trooper helping out."*

*"I know it sounds odd, but I want to compliment one of your officers, even though he stopped me for speeding. At first I was nervous, but your officer had a way of helping me to feel calm. I am sure it is rare for officers to get compliments from people who have just received a ticket!"*

*"I appreciate the Click It Or Ticket program. As a truck driver for 35 years, I have seen things that distress me greatly, especially when people say they love their families, only to allow their children to move about a vehicle freely, no form of restraint. My seat belt has saved my life more than once. Thank you for the work your department is doing."*

*"I just wanted to let you know that nothing makes me, as a commercial driver, happier than seeing the blue lights going alongside the road, and coming up on it and seeing a trooper having pulled over one of the cars that just went by me at 100+ mph."*

*"Chief Serpas: I wish to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing assistance for smaller agencies...and to praise the excellent work done by your Crime Lab Response Team."*

2002 in the...



## ***The Washington State Patrol...***



***MAKING A DIFFERENCE...  
EVERY DAY!***

An internationally accredited agency providing professional law enforcement services.

